

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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R 020933Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5783

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 1372

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR PROP BU YO

SUBJ: MACEDONIA

REF: (A) SOFIA 417, (B) BELGRADE 1277(NOTAL), (C) ANKARA 1576(NOTAL)

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY BERNARDIC DID REFER TO "YUGOSLAV MINORITY" IN BULGARIA IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE (REFTEL B). THIS WAS REVEALING BUT PROBABLY UNINTENDED SLIP. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS ALWAYS REFER MOR SPECIFICALLY TO "MACEDONIAN MINORITY".

2. BULGARIAN PRESS SILENCE ON MACEDONA IS NOT SUPRISING SINCE BULGARIA DOES NOT RECOGNIZE EXISTENCE OF MACEDONIAN NATION. BUT WHILE MASS MEDIA MAY BE SILENT, YUGOSLAVS FIND RECENT TREATMENT OF MACEDONIA AND WORLD WAR II IN TEXTBOOKS AND ACADEMIC JOURNALS BOTH OFFENSIVE AND AN ATTEMPT REWRITE HISTORY. THEY ARE ALSO REACTING TO PERCEIVED GOB ATTEMPT TO WIPE OUT "MACEDONIAN" CONSCIOUSNESS, REPRESENTED BY SUPPOSED PRESSURE CAMPAIGN IN BULGARIA PRECEEDING DECEMBER CENSUS. TURKISH GOVERNMENT NOTES CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN REPRESSION OF TURKISH MINORITY IN 1975(REFTEL C).
SWEITZER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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